

Memories of Salve Regina 1964-1968 by Marian Mathison Desrosiers, PhD

April 2018 for the 50<sup>th</sup> Class Reunion

Three individuals at the university who guided my personal and professional path:

1. Dr. Ann Nelson presented me with an intellectual framework for teaching history of cultures and civilizations according to SPIRE (Social, Political, Intellectual, Religious, and Economic aspects) and provided me with research skills essential for an historian and writer.
2. Professor Bob McKenna taught me “politics is action,” by guiding me to participate in a RI Intern program with the Speaker of the House, to secure a Congressional Internship under Senator Claiborne Pell, and to experience campaigns for public office.
3. Dr. Leo Bottari created in me a life-long passion for science that guided my coaching of science experiments with my children and running workshops for their elementary school teachers.

Three events/activities at the university which informed my life:

1. Ochre Court Balls, such as the Father/Daughter Dance, November Nocturne, and Ring Dance, celebrated family, traditions, and elegance, which continues with the Governor’s Ball.
2. The delights of music, while singing in the Queen’s Choristers and Pelouquin Chorale, along with the joy of performance in the *King and I* and *Sound of Music* under the direction of Dr. Joan David, gave me a lifelong love for concerts and theater.
3. Vatican II led to my participation in a discussion group on Ecumenism, post-college courses at the East-West Center, Honolulu, a Fulbright Fellowship to India, and thirty years of teaching comparative understanding of Asian and Abrahamic religions.

The values of the Sisters of Mercy and the Dominican priests who guided us:

1. Be honest, kind, and generous
2. Treat others as you would have them treat you
3. Love God with your whole mind, heart, and soul